

Step	Mode Name	Description	Hardware Involved
1	Selection	Customer looks at recently updated "catalog" of available music selections on his TV using the graphical user interface. Use remote to page through information.	User station, remote, customer TV, stored catalog
2	Ordering	Customer uses user station, remote and TV screen to order standard or customized CD. Order communicated to central controller by Internet or modem. Central controller issues decoding and encryption key(s), selection locations and order number to user station for preview.	User station, modem/Internet, remote, customer TV
3	Downloading	Music selections are downloaded during early morning transmission hours as encrypted, compressed files through customer's satellite dish and receiver to hard disk in user station. User station selects correct TV channel on receiver using IR link.	User station, satellite receiver, video output interface
4	Decoding	User station uses decoding key(s) to decode downloaded file(s) so that full quality music is on disk drive (or other storage medium) in user station. Customer order number is hidden within this music based upon encryption information received during ordering process.	User station
5	Previewing	Brief portions of downloaded selections may be "previewed" by the customer along with the entire selection that has been "hobbled" by removing information to degrade music quality and prevent reconstruction of music.	User station, remote, customer's amp, speakers and TV
6	Playing	Customer plays full-quality selection through his hi-fi or TV sound system with post billing back his account via later modem/Internet communication with the central controller. Playing may include graphics, written jacket information, or hearing impaired cues shown on customer's TV.	User station, remote, customer's amp, speakers and TV
7	CD Delivery	Full-quality CD that can be heard on any CD player is burned with order number (ID tag) hidden in the music. (Burning process does not need to be quick.)	User station, CD burner, customer supplied CD
	Account Setup	Happens when customer buys and hooks up the user station.	

Fig. 2

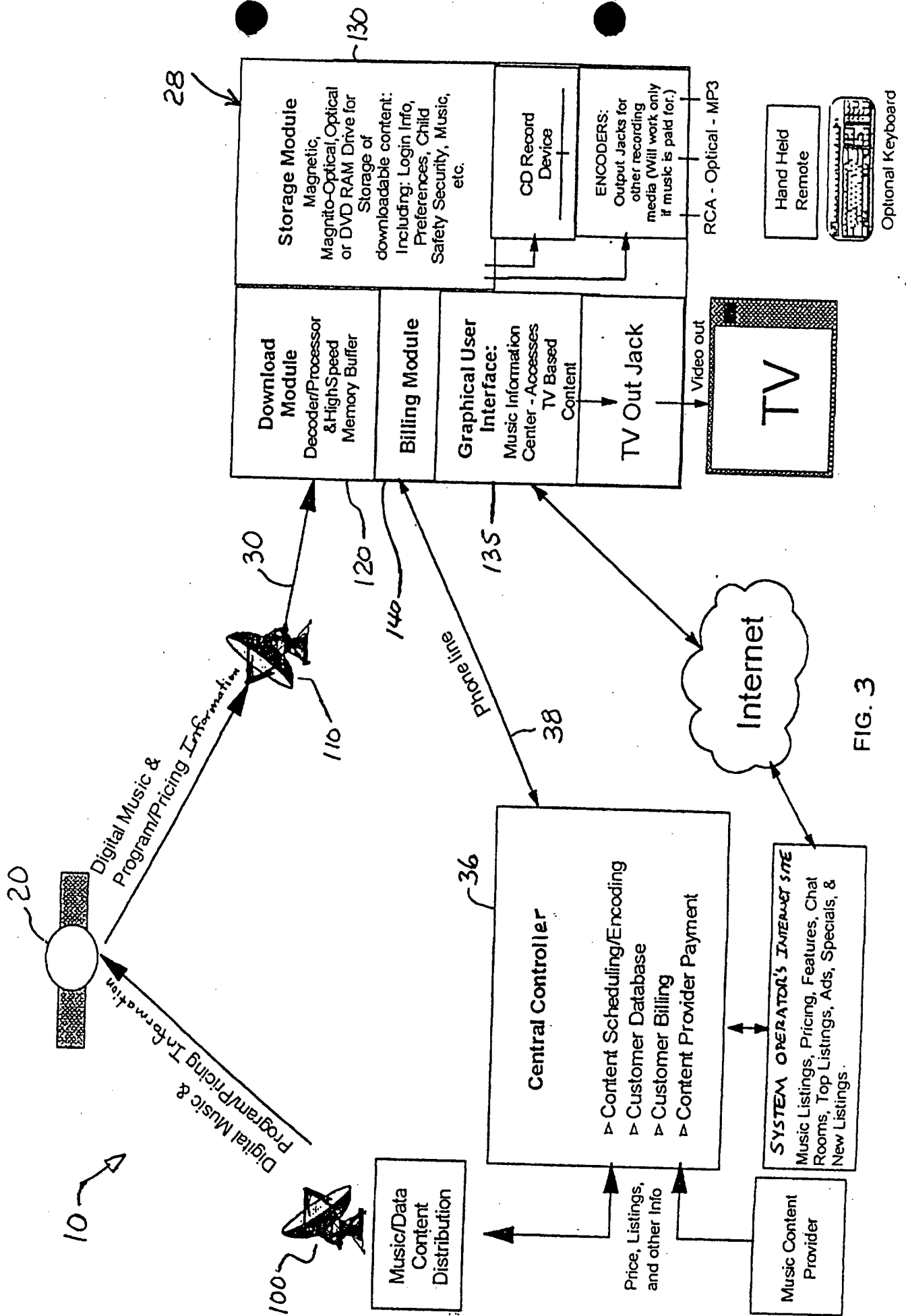
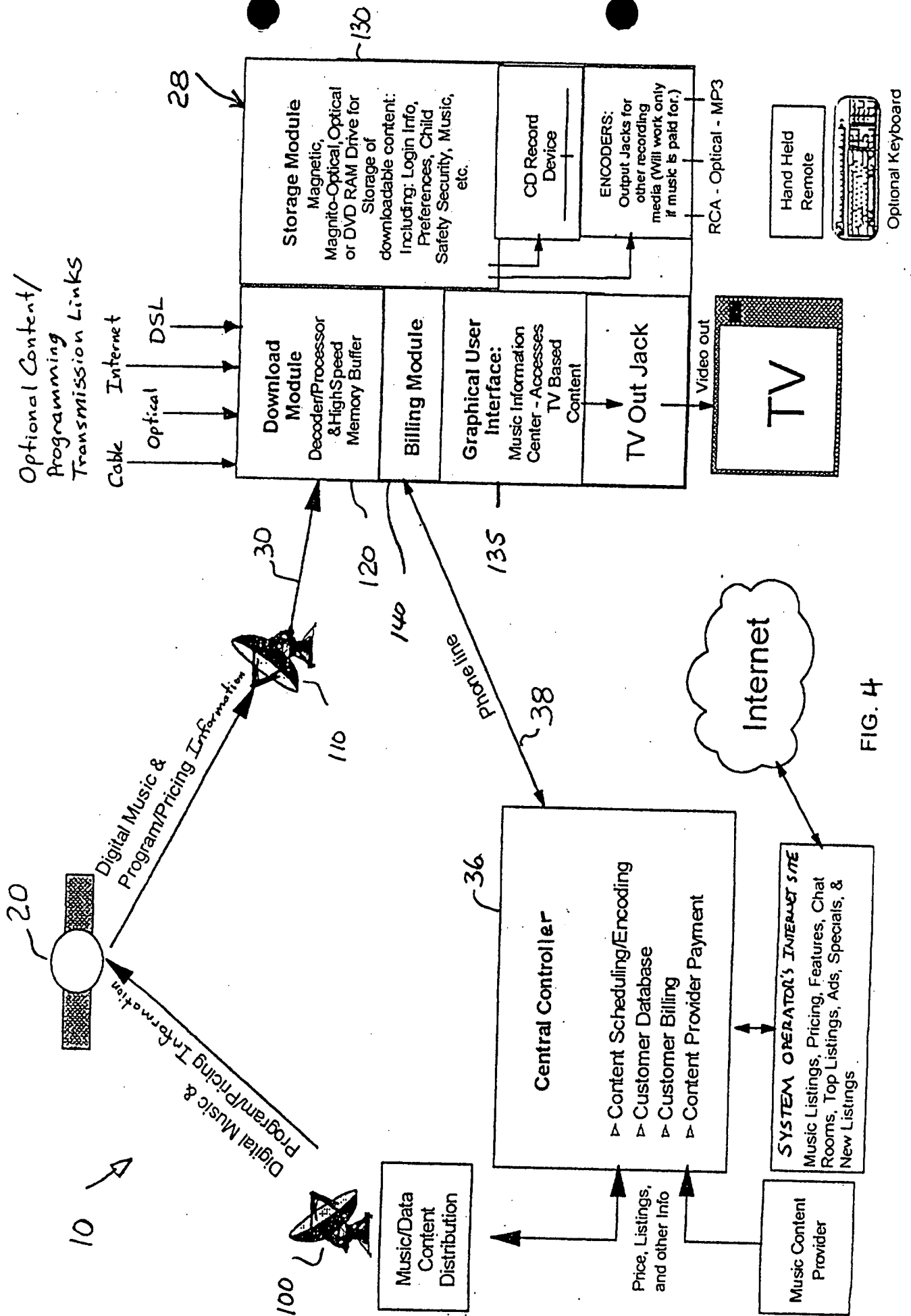


FIG. 3

Optional Content/  
Programming  
Transmission Links



```
graph TD; MSO[Music Distribution System Operator]; DTP[Data Transmission Provider (E.G., DBS)]; CP[Content Providers]; C[Consumers]; MSO -- "$" --> DTP; DTP -- "Blanket Transmission of Music" --> C; CP -- "Content" --> DTP; CP -- "Copyright License/ Pricing" --> MSO; MSO -- "$" --> CP; MSO -- "Enabling Commands" --> C; C -- "Info. for Billing" --> MSO; C -- "$" --> MSO;
```

The diagram illustrates the Music Distribution System architecture and its interactions. The central component is the **Music Distribution System Operator**. It interacts with three main entities: the **Data Transmission Provider (E.G., DBS)**, **Content Providers**, and **Consumers**.

- Music Distribution System Operator** sends **\$** (monetary payment) to the **Data Transmission Provider (E.G., DBS)**.
- The **Data Transmission Provider (E.G., DBS)** provides a **Blanket Transmission of Music** to the **Consumers**.
- Content Providers** send **Content** to the **Data Transmission Provider (E.G., DBS)**.
- Content Providers** send **Copyright License/ Pricing** information to the **Music Distribution System Operator**.
- The **Music Distribution System Operator** sends **\$** (monetary payment) to the **Content Providers**.
- The **Music Distribution System Operator** sends **Enabling Commands** to the **Consumers**.
- The **Consumers** send **Info. for Billing** back to the **Music Distribution System Operator**.
- The **Consumers** send **\$** (monetary payment) back to the **Music Distribution System Operator**.

FIG. 5

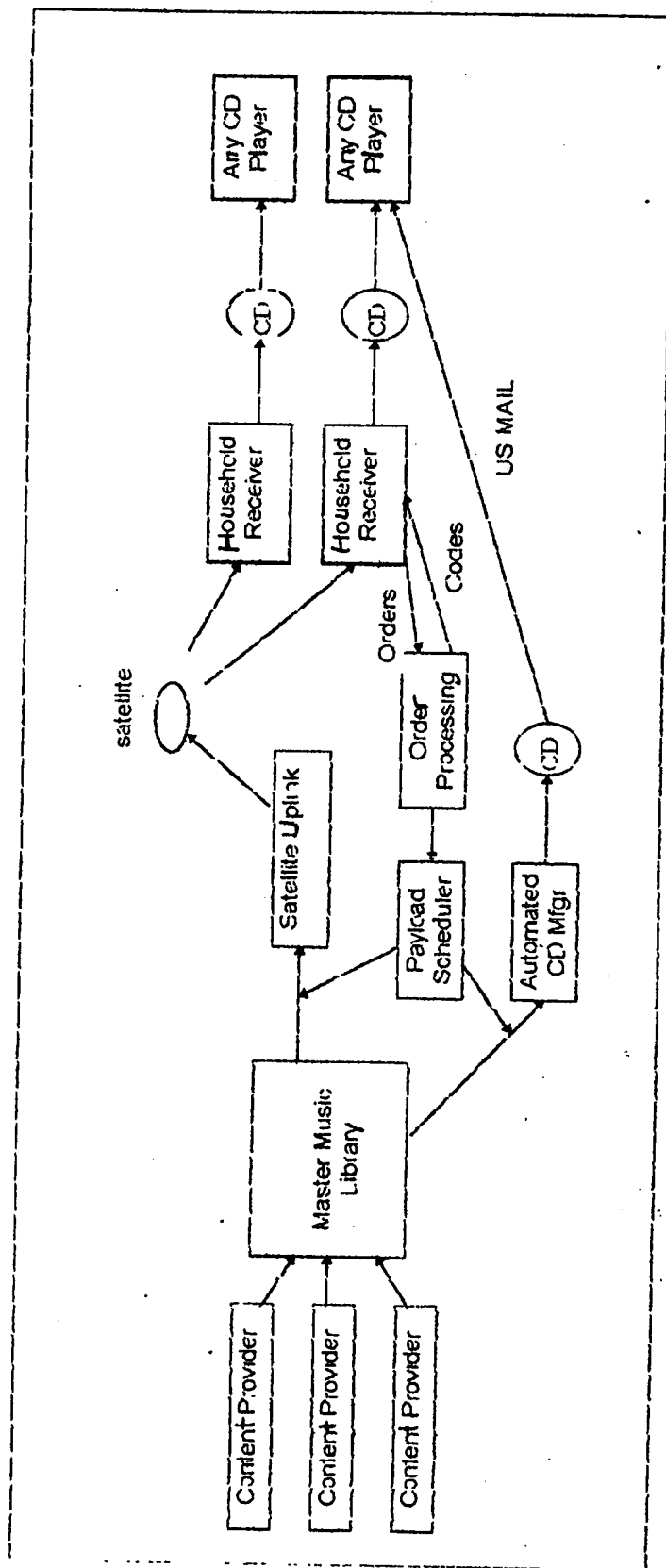


Fig. 6